

## LIQUOR QUESTION IS NATIONAL ONE SPEAKERS STATE

Meh's Meeting Told Much Time Is Wasted in State Fights.

### DENOUNCES EXCISEMEN

Local Leader Says There Are Seventy-five Saloons Too Many.

### MAY ASK FOR THEIR REMOVAL

Rev. Sam Small, Former Gov. Patterson, and Andrew Wilson Principal Speakers at Mass Gathering.

That the liquor question is one for the nation to decide and not the individual States were the assertions yesterday afternoon at the Belasco Theater of former Gov. Patterson, of Tennessee, and Rev. Small, of Atlanta, Ga. Both argued that the State fight is too long and that the only way to stamp out the sale of intoxicants effectively is for Congress to act favorably upon the question.

Seventy-five saloons in the National Capital have been granted liquor licenses in direct and gross violation of the plain provisions of the present excise law, according to Andrew Wilson, president of the District Anti-Saloon League.

### Says Law Misconstrued.

The assertions were made at an immense prohibition mass meeting for men, Mr. Wilson delivering a fervent speech in denunciation of the present Excise Board. He declared the law is being misconstrued and misapplied, and intimated that unless members of the board assume a different mental attitude efforts would be made to secure the appointment of officials who would administer the law properly.

"Our complaints are manifold," said Mr. Wilson. "We cannot understand why a saloon on Q street was permitted to operate without a license from March 15 to November 27. We cannot understand why saloons are being permitted to exist within the prohibitive limits near churches and schools. There is one within less than 50 feet of Eastern High School. A saloon has been granted a license across the street from a church. The Excise Board ruled the building was not a place of religious worship merely because of the fact that there is a bicycle shop beneath the hall in which the meetings are held. The board likewise has ruled that the Central Union Mission, which has religious meetings every night in the year, is not a place of religious worship."

"Enormous attorney fees are being paid by liquor men. One saloonkeeper paid \$5,000 to attorneys to aid him in securing a license. One saloon proprietor offered \$15,000 for certain property which he proposed to use for liquor purposes. No man would pay such fees and offer such prices unless he had good reason to believe he was going to get a license."

"One liquor man paid for the destruction of protests against a license being granted him," declared Mr. Wilson, "and he got his permit notwithstanding. A license has been granted to a notorious establishment, out of which each evening staggering young girls are led to cars in waiting and hurried home from this hole of vice. Evidence to this effect was presented before the excise board. It was held as inadmissible, and one of the members of the board said: 'Amend to the action. There are 25 saloons now in the District, but if the law properly was enforced there would be seventy-five less.'"

## FIRST BULGARIAN ENVOY REACHES U. S.

M. Stephen Panaretoff Arrives on the Kronland to Establish Legation Here—Has American Wife.

New York, Dec. 6.—M. Stephen Panaretoff arrived here today on the steamship Kronland to establish in Washington the first legation of Bulgaria in this country. The new minister was accompanied by his wife, formerly Miss Lydia Gile, of North Andover, Mass., and M. George N. Poullieff, the first secretary of the new embassy.

"Our legation will have a modest start," said Mr. Panaretoff, "but we hope it will prove effectual in bringing our countries closer together. We have much to learn from the United States, especially in agriculture."

"Despite a year of war, my country, judging from her bank reports, is prosperous."

"Bulgaria owes a great deal to the United States. The king himself told me how much he admires your country and said he would like to visit it in person."

M. Panaretoff said that he was convinced that his country would not change its present attitude of neutrality toward the European war.

### PLANS TO END WAR AND LIGHT THE OCEAN

Nikola Tesla Says He Has New Electrical Invention Which Will Revolutionize the Earth.

Special to The Washington Herald.

New York, Dec. 6.—Nikola Tesla, scientist and inventor, at the Waldorf tonight said that he saw the end of the war in the application of new principles of electrical construction he has discovered and with which he expects to revolutionize many of the activities of life.

"The lighting of the ocean is only one of the less important results to be achieved by the use of this invention," said Mr. Tesla. "It has planned many of the details of a plant which might be erected at the Azores and which would be amply sufficient to illuminate the entire ocean so that such a disaster as that of the Titanic would not be repeated. The light would be soft and of very small intensity, but quite adequate to the purpose."

"One of the even more valuable uses to which this invention can be put is the transmission of the human voice or any kind of picture or image from one to any other part of the globe."

"The discovery will make the gun obsolete. The battles of the future will be fought with electrical waves. The destruction will be so prodigious that on this account alone war will become an impossibility."

### Botha Declares Boer Rebellion Is Crushed

Pretoria, Dec. 6.—Gen. Botha states that the spirits of the rebels have been entirely broken.

He is sure that the demonstration by his forces has practically crushed the rebellion in Orange Free State.

### Ostend, German Base In Belgium, Reported In Flames

Dunkirk, Dec. 6.—Ostend is reported on fire. This is believed to have been caused either by the bombardment from the allies' ships off the coast or by the act of incendiaries.

## CONGRESS WILL OPEN SESSION AT NOON TODAY

Short Term of Sixty-third Sitting Begins at Fall of Gavel.

### LEADERS ARE ON HAND

Mostly Routine Work Will Be Considered by the Legislators.

### PROHIBITION TO BE URGED

Unpreparedness of United States for War Will Be Given Consideration.

The last session of the Sixty-third Congress will meet at noon today. Nearly all of the Senators and Representatives are in the city, and Vice President Marshall is expected to arrive here tonight. Speaker Clark also is in the city, having just returned from a Chautauqua junket, and is ready to call the House to order. The session will end at noon March 4.

It is the general opinion of leaders that the business of the short session will be confined to passing necessary routine legislation, such as the general appropriation bill, and that very little, if any, other legislation seriously will be considered. There will be insistence from certain quarters that other legislation shall pass.

Senator Cummins, of Iowa, is back in Washington with a demand that the railway securities bill that was side-tracked by the administration in the last session be taken up and passed this winter. The securities bill was number three in the anti-trust program of the administration.

Some of the Southern members who have considerable support from the West and the Northwest desire fiscal credits legislation, but they are by no means agreed as to the form of the bill, and even the advocates of this proposition admit privately it cannot be passed at this session.

### Fight on Harbors Bill.

The big fight of the winter is expected to be waged over the river and harbors bill. The House Committee on Rivers and Harbors is planning a measure that will embrace nearly all of the projects that were knocked out of the so-called "pork barrel" bill in the last session, and there is certain to be a fight, especially in the Senate. Friends of the bill expect to get the measure out early, so that there will be plenty of time to put it through.

The Senate has no program immediately in sight. It probably will mark time until the House has put through some of the appropriation bills. The Appropriations Committee of the House has finished work on two or three of the general appropriation bills, and probably will report one or more of them on the first day of the session.

When Congress adjourned in October, a bill permitting member banks to issue emergency currency on commercial paper up to 10 per cent of their capital and surplus, instead of 30 per cent, as provided by existing law, was made the "unfinished business" of the House. To this bill an amendment was offered, authorizing the issue of \$25,000,000 in emergency currency for the relief of the cotton growers of the South. This proposition, fought with bitterness before Congress adjourned in October, may come up for a vote in the House today. At least an order to that effect was entered in October, and the program doubtfully will be carried out unless the administration or the House leadership intervenes. Representative Henry, of Texas, who led the fight for cotton currency, expressed no belief last night that the proposal would come to a vote today.

### To Consider Prohibition.

Prohibition of the liquor traffic and the supposed unpreparedness of the United States for war are two questions that are certain to come up for discussion early in the session. The Rules Committee will vote on the prohibition amendment on December 12, and if the committee vote in the affirmative the subject will be brought squarely up to the House. Late this week the Rules Committee will give consideration to the question of war unpreparedness as presented in the resolution offered by Representative Gardner, of Massachusetts.

The hope almost generally is expressed by Democratic leaders that the work of the session will be limited to routine business, and so it will be unless President Wilson insists upon general legislation.

Arrangements have been made for a joint session of Congress to be held in the House chamber to receive President Wilson, who will read his annual message in accordance with his custom.

### JAPS MAY JOIN BRITISH.

Veterans Are Leaving Hawaii to Rejoice Regiments.

Honolulu, Dec. 6.—An exodus of Japanese has begun to assume noteworthy proportions here. Thousands of veterans of the Russo-Japanese war are preparing to return to the colors.

Word has reached them that they may expect to see service with their allies, the British, in Egypt, Africa, and India.

## "BARKEEPS" ARE PUT "ON HONOR" TO MEET WAR TAX

Merchants to Be Trusted as to the Sticker Money They Owe.

### MANY WITHOUT STAMPS

So Officials Will Show Leniency Until Supply Is Furnished.

### SO UNEXPECTED, YOU KNOW

Authorities Did Not Have Time to Prepare for Situation, So Dealers Pay After Sales.

Uncle Sam has found it necessary to put hundreds of thousands of persons under the "honor system" in the collection of war taxes. It was learned from high officials of the Treasury Department last night, when Congress in its wisdom, requested to give the Bureau of Internal Revenue sufficient time to prepare for the collection.

The new "honor system" has been in operation since the war revenue act went into effect on October 3, and it is being worked by collectors of Internal Revenue throughout the United States. Officials admit this novel system of gathering Uncle Sam's taxes is not as efficient as it is laudible.

All Under Honor System. Bank presidents, accustomed to "gentlemen's agreements" down through the line of tax payers to the cheap grocery shop keeper, to whom "honor" may be a word with vague meaning, have been put under the "honor system" to pay their Uncle Sam every penny that is coming to him.

Just how much internal revenue will be lost under the unique method of collection is a problem which even the most skilled statisticians in the Treasury Department dare not tackle. But the collectors are determined to get all the war taxes, and it will be "woe unto him" who violates the "honor system."

When President Wilson signed the war revenue bill on October 22 he approved a law which imposed most difficult tasks on both the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and the Bureau of Internal Revenue. In fact, the law imposed tasks impossible of accomplishment. One part of the law said in effect that on the following day revenue stamps should be affixed to every bottle of still and sparkling wines, liquors, and cordials sold for consumption.

### Had Little Time.

One short night was given the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to engrave, print and deliver to Commissioner of Internal Revenue Osborn a million or so of stamps. In that same night the law said that Mr. Osborn should ship the stamps to collectors throughout the nation, and that the collectors should distribute the stamps to all liquor dealers.

Director Ralph, of the Bureau of Engraving, put on day and night shifts working at full speed, and Commissioner Osborn likewise got busy, but at close of business last Saturday night a large percentage of liquor dealers in Washington, right under the nose of the Treasury Department, still were without stamps. Some dealers here have been keeping a record of the taxable goods they sold since October 23.

When the stamps finally are ready these dealers will swear that they have sold so much and owe so much tax. They will pay that tax, the collector will cancel a similar amount in stamps, and the law will be declared complied with. But how about those dealers who are keeping no record? Many confess they never have heard of such a thing and will have a difficult time swearing they sold so much of this and so much of that.

Absence Shall Be Evidence. Druggists have been under the "honor system" since December 1. Since that date the law has required stamps on all packets, boxes, bottles and phials of essences, extracts, toilet waters, cosmetics, vaselines, hair oils, pomades, hair dyes, tooth washes and pastes and perfumes, but thousands of druggists have not been able to procure stamps with which to do all such stamping.

Yet the law specifically declares that for failure to affix the stamps on and after December 1 a person shall be "deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall pay a fine of not more than \$500, or be imprisoned for not more than six months, or both."

Regarding bottles of wines, cordials and liquors, the law states that the "absence of such stamps shall be prima facie evidence that the tax has not been paid, and the wines, liquors and cordials shall be forfeited to the United States." According to certain Treasury officials, the "absence of such stamps is prima facie evidence that Congress did not grant sufficient time in which to print and distribute the stamps."

### Two Charges Over Aged Lawyer.

New York, Dec. 6.—Alfred Ennis, the aged Indiana lawyer, who was arrested on a separation suit and freed Saturday on a bond of \$1,000 furnished by his daughter, Mrs. George H. Lorimer, has been arrested for an alleged bill of \$36.54. Mrs. Lorimer also furnished bond in this case.

## LODZ TAKEN BY GERMANS, OPENING ROAD TO WARSAW; GAINS BY ALLIES IN BELGIUM

## ALLIES DESTROY FIELD FORT AND WRECK BIG GUNS

Three Distinct Successes on Widely Separated Sections of Front Are Reported.

### ADVANCE IN FLANDERS

British Gain on Left and Joffre's Right Wing Menaces Metz and Strassburg.

### GERMANS LOSE MUCH GROUND

Forced Back Along Entire Line in Belgium—Carry on "Sapping" Operations in Alsace.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

Paris, Dec. 6.—Three successes were won by the heavy artillery of the allies in fighting reported today in official dispatches from widely separated sections of the battle front.

In Flanders, near the ferry-man's house between Dixmude and Ypres, which was captured by the British after a month's fighting, the British gunners destroyed a German field fort.

In Champagne the French guns overwhelmed the Kaiser's batteries. Near Varennes, sixteen miles from Verdun, the French guns put every gun of the German batteries out of action.

The week opened with the allies holding more advanced positions in Flanders than they have gained in any corresponding period during the last month.

### Advance Is Steady.

The last three days have been an unbroken record of successes on this section of the front with the exception of the battle around Wenden, on the outskirts of Langemarck, northwest of Ypres, where the Germans have effectively repulsed the French attacks. Today's official statement declared that the German corps contesting for the position assumed the offensive, but without avail, the British continuing to hold the section of the town to which they retired on Friday.

One of the most important advances made by the allies was to the east of Poessel, in the region about the ferry-man's house, where the German field fort was reported destroyed today. This is the first really firm footing the British have been able to gain on the bank of the Yser, and the fall of the German counter-attacks in an effort to regain the lost stronghold, together with the reduction of the fortified position from which they had conducted their operations, speaks volumes for the firmness with which the British have established themselves.

### Smothered Teuton Batteries.

The new laurels for the French gunners were gained in the Champagne region by remarkably accurate and persistent cannonade while they themselves were under a terrific fire of the German batteries. The Kaiser's gunners opened a furious bombardment of the French positions. The French batteries replied with a deadly rain of shells, from the new field howitzers, which recently were brought up from the rear to replace the burnt-out pieces, and the Germans were smothered by the fury of the reply.

"Sapping," the most terrifying form of warfare, continues in the Argonne region. Here the Germans, by digging zigzag trenches at such an angle as never to subject the occupants to an fire, but always bringing the burrowers closer to the opposing forces, have crept up under the French trenches and hurled bombs and hand grenades of great explosive power in the rifle pits. Or by tunnelling from their own trenches to a point under the French positions they planted mines which were detonated after the "home end" of the bores had been sealed.

### French Move on Forts.

Both operations have been tried repeatedly, but the watchfulness of the French and of the dash and daring of their offensive have more than overcome the advantage gained by the Germans through their sapping methods, with the result that the French have been able to record considerable gains, and the occasions on which the Germans have taken the offensive in the open have been of sad memory to the invaders.

The right wing of Gen. Joffre's allied army is heavily engaged with the Germans on two important fronts, one facing Metz and the other threatening Strassburg.

Several trenches have been taken in the forest country in Alsace, where all the counter attacks of the Germans thus far have been repulsed.

### Wilson Indoors All Day.

President Wilson spent yesterday quietly at the White House. The bad weather kept him indoors all day and forced him to omit his customary Sunday afternoon motor trip through the parks.

### FOREIGN BATTLESHIP ASHORE OFF OCEAN CITY

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 6.—A four funnel warship, wallowing helplessly in a heavy sea has been in distress six miles off Ocean City, Md., since early this afternoon. Owing to the severity of the storm lifelines have been unable to go to her. In the teeth of the gale the United States Revenue Cutter Itasca is steaming to her aid.

Because the distressed ship has refused to send a wireless it is believed by naval officers here that she must be a foreign man-of-war.

The Itasca, which was 300 miles outside the Virginia capes when she received the wireless call to go to the assistance of the unknown ship will not reach her aide until tomorrow.

## ALLIES TRY TO FORCE STRAITS

Anglo-French Fleet of Forty Warships May Seek to Enter Dardanelles.

### SUBMARINE EFFORT FAILS

Berlin Message Reports Big Naval Battle Near, but Censor Deletes Location of Ships.

Special Cable to The Washington Herald.

London, Dec. 6.—Interest in the war at sea centered today about a naval operation of major proportions which a dispatch from Berlin indicates is imminent.

Forty of the allies' warships are reported to have gathered at a point whose location is hidden by the censor, but where an attack upon the enemy's fortifications involving the passage of the warships through a thickly strewn mine field is about to be made. The point is thought to be the Dardanelles. The dispatch, transmitted from Berlin via Copenhagen, reads:

"Forty French and British warships have gathered outside of (location deleted by censor) with the evident intention of forcing their way through. This is impossible, as the fortifications have been strengthened greatly and the water is strewn thickly with mines."

### Submarine Attempt Fails.

This message followed close on the heels of a Constantinople dispatch, telling of the unsuccessful attempt of a British submarine to slip through the Dardanelles.

According to naval authorities here the only place other than the Dardanelles that the dispatch could possibly have reference to is the Kiel Canal, where the German fleet is assembled. It is argued that the passage referring to the strengthening of the fortification eliminates Kiel as a possibility because the forts there were made as strong as was humanly possible before the war began. Besides, it is believed that an attack on this stronghold by the allies' fleets is out of the question. Then, too, at last reports the French navy was centering its activity in the Mediterranean, where, ever since the war began, the French fleet has been dominant. No French warships are known to be in the Baltic or in the North seas.

The new developments also seem to be identified with the Turkish stronghold by the known fact that German officers detailed with the Turkish fleet from the Kaiser's navy have been for some weeks engaged in superintending material improvements to the system of strongholds along the Dardanelles.

### STORM SWEEPS COAST; WRECKAGE IN ITS WAKE

#### Atlantic City and Other Seashore Towns Badly Damaged by Sixty-mile Gale.

Atlantic City, Dec. 6.—A northeast gale attaining at times a velocity of a mile a minute has swept this section for hours and has wrought severe damage to outlying sections of Atlantic City, the cottage district of Ventnor, Margate City, Longport and Brigantine.

Fifty launches, riding at anchor, have been sunk. Pieces are being swept away, house boats are being wrecked. Trolley communication between Pleasantville and Longport has been broken.

The fate of a \$30,000 music hall on the end of the steel pier depends now only upon whims of the tide. Its foundations and supports have been undermined and it is trembling before the gale. A \$10,000 cottage, owned by N. H. Rind, of Philadelphia, has been destroyed and many other cottages and buildings are damaged. Charles Vertell, a gunner, caught in the storm, is missing.

## Railroad in Teuton Hands, Investment of Warsaw Is Next Move

Kaiser Pays Heavily for Victory in "Greatest Battle of History." 200,000 Germans Being Reported Put Out of Action—Capture of Lodz Gives Von Hindenburg Direct Road to Capital of Russian Poland—Information of Events Leading Up to Fall of City Lacking Because of Storms Which Have Interrupted Communication with the Front, but German Success Was Fore-shadowed Several Days Ago.

Petrograd Silent, but London Accepts Berlin Statement of Success as a Fact.

London, Dec. 7, (Monday).—According to a wireless dispatch from Berlin early this morning official announcement has been made by the main headquarters of the army that the Germans occupied Lodz in Russian Poland on Sunday.

No word has been received from Petrograd concerning the reported German success.

In the absence of any official contradiction of the German claim the statement from Berlin is being accepted as a fact here.

The Germans, if the statement finally is verified, must then be credited with winning the greatest battle ever fought in the history of the world. But they have paid the price, for it is estimated the Germans lost in this battle close to 200,000 in killed, wounded and missing.

### Battle Greatest of History.

Not only was the battle the greatest in history but the prize is momentous. The capture of the city of Lodz means to the victor the control of the most important railroad in central Russia. Poland—a railroad leading straight to Warsaw, the capital of Russian Poland, whose conquest is the object of the German strategy in the east.

Information of a reliable character regarding the developments in the battle around Lodz is lacking owing to delays in transmission to messages because of the storms which have interrupted communication. But it is known that as late as last Thursday the Germans, having failed to pierce the Russian center, had commenced with the aid of considerable reinforcements, another attempt to envelop the Russians on both flanks.

### Opens Way to Warsaw.

In this effort the fighting developed strongly at Ilova to the north of Lodz and at Petrokov, to the south of the city now reported fallen. Both these positions are much in advance of those previously reported to have been held by the Germans and their presence there indicated rapid advance, threatening Lodz even at that time.

These two positions also are on the main roads to Warsaw. With the two main high roads and the railway line held by the Germans, Warsaw would appear to be in imminent danger of investment.

### London Still Accepts Situation with Reserve.

London still accepts the situation with reserve, preferring to await official advice from Petrograd.

Lodz is a city of some 450,000 population, is the chief manufacturing center of Russian Poland. It has numerous textile mills, the majority of them for the manufacture of cotton goods. In addition it has flour mills, dyeing establishments, brick yards, machinery plants and breweries. The population is made up of Poles, Germans and Jews.

Reports at hand in Berlin from Serbia indicate that the Serbians are still capable of offering considerable resistance. The Serbian rear guard has delivered several attacks in order to cover the retreat of the main army.

The appointment of Prince von Buelow to the Italian embassy is hailed with general satisfaction. He is believed to be the man most fitted to deal with German relations with Italy.

## KAISER CALLS ALL MEN BETWEEN 18 AND 45

Members of Landsturm Not Ordered Out August 15 Are Called to Colors.

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Regular reserves. After them come the extra reserves of the classes of 1914 and 1915, and then the volunteers.

The landwehr are the first reserves; they were called out at the beginning of the war. The first class of landsturm called out on August 15 were all men between thirty-nine and forty-five, who had served in the army or navy a certain time. The second class, now called out, comprises all between eighteen and forty-five, who have not been in the army, but have been passed as physically fit.

## JANITOR STICKS TO CHURCH MURDER STORY

Admits He Has Criminal Record and Was in Asylum, but Denies Knowledge of Girl's Death.

Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 6.—Despite prolonged and severe cross examination by Chief of Police Johnson and detectives, David Fountain today stuck to his general account of his whereabouts and actions preceding his reporting the finding of the body of Margaret Stilling, ten-year-old girl, who was murdered in the German Lutheran Church here yesterday. Fountain volunteers little information. He says he cannot tell how the girl got into the church or at whose hand she met her death.

He admits, however, that he has a long criminal record and was at one time in a hospital for the insane.

"I am a five-time loser," said Fountain. "I did one term on a charge of burglary at Moyamensing penitentiary, in Philadelphia."

"Then I did four separate terms in the prison at Fort Madison, Ia. These sentences were for burglary, some of them safe-cracking jobs."

In Iowa I was hit on the head by a blunt instrument and put me in an insane asylum for a year and a half."

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